BRITISH COLUMBIA
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BCStats

Infoline

Contact: bcstats.infoline@gov.bc.ca *Issue: 10-24* *June 18th, 2010*

- **Manufacturers lose ground in April as shipments fall 2.5%; wholesale sales down 1.5%**
- **Median family income increases to $50,300 in 2008**
- **Number of hate crimes reported in BC nearly doubles in 2008**

The Economy

- **BC manufacturing shipments declined 2.5% (*seasonally adjusted*) in April, reversing part of the 4.2% gain recorded in March.** A slip (-3.6%) in shipments by manufacturers of non-durable goods was largely due to a downturn in the food industry (-3.0%).

  In the durables sector, shipments were down (-1.3%) even though the primary metals industry posted its first increase (+2.3%) since January. Manufacturers of non-metallic mineral products (+3.8%) also made gains. However, falling shipments by producers of furniture (-6.0%), computer & electronic products (-14.6%) and transportation equipment (-5.5%) more than offset the increases.

  Nationally, Canadian manufacturers saw relatively flat factory sales (+0.2%) in April, with five provinces posting declines. Newfoundland & Labrador (+42.6%) and New Brunswick (+11.1%) showed the healthiest increases. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

- **British Columbia's wholesalers posted a 3.1% (*seasonally adjusted*) decrease in the value of goods sold in April, more than offsetting the 1.9% climb seen in March.** The decline was mostly driven by slower sales of motor vehicles and machinery & equipment. Canadian wholesale sales were off 0.3% due mostly to weakness in the motor vehicle & parts (-2.5%) and miscellaneous (-1.0%) sectors. With the exception of Quebec (+2.4%) and Manitoba (+0.2%), all provinces posted declines. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

- **Motor vehicle sales in BC slowed (-1.5%, *seasonally adjusted*) in April, adding to a similar drop in sales (-1.0%) in March.**

  Nationally, new motor vehicle sales also continued to travel in the slow lane (-4.7%), with sales of passenger cars built in both North America (-4.0%) and overseas (-15.7%) tumbling. Flagging sales in Quebec (-8.5%) and Ontario (-4.0%) had the biggest impact on the national decline. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

- **The number of Employment Insurance (EI) claimants receiving regular benefits in British Columbia crept up 0.2% (*seasonally adjusted*) in April.** At the national level an estimated 667,380 Canadians received regular EI benefits, 0.1% fewer than in March. The largest decrease in the number of claimants was registered in Alberta (-4.7%), while Ontario (+1.2%) saw a jump in the number of beneficiaries. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

Tourism

- **The number of visitors arriving in Canada via BC climbed (+0.5%, *seasonally adjusted*) in April as more Americans (+0.7%) crossed the border into BC.** Same day trips were up (+2.9%), but overnight visits from the States inched down (-0.4%).

  Overseas entries were off slightly (-0.2%) in April, largely because of fewer European visits (-0.8%). However, entries from Asia (+1.7%) were notably stronger.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

Income

- **The median after-tax income of British Columbia families (including families of two or**

Report **Tourism-Related Establishments**

Did you know...

Half of Canadian small-business owners (52%) currently have (46%) or are considering (6%) developing a green plan or environmental policies. *Source: Ipsos Canada*

more people as well as unattached individuals) increased 4.6% to $50,300 (*constant 2008 dollars*) in 2008. This marked the second straight year when BC's median was higher that of the nation as a whole ($48,300). Median after-tax income in the province had remained below the national average from 1999 to 2006.

For the fifth year in a row, Alberta ($59,300) families had the highest median after-tax income in the country, while Ontario ($53,200) remained in second place. Incomes in the rest of the country ranged from $40,500 in Quebec to $47,800 in Saskatchewan.

The median income is the income level that divides the top half of family income levels from the bottom half. Total income includes market income (earnings, investment, retirement and other income) as well as government transfers, including pensions (such as CPP and Old Age Security), Employment Insurance, workers' compensation benefits, social assistance and other transfers. After-tax income is calculated using income-tax rates and total income. *Data Source: SC, Cat. No. 75-202-XIE*

- **Compared to other provinces, government transfers account for a relatively small share of total family income in BC.** The implicit government transfer rate (average government transfers as a percent of average total income) in the province was 10.6% in 2008, slightly below the national average (11.4%) and lower than every province except Alberta (6.8%). Newfoundland & Labrador (18.6%) had the highest transfer rate, but families in other parts of Atlantic Canada, as well as Quebec, were also quite dependent on transfers as a source of income.

Data Source: SC, Catalogue 75-202-XIE

Crime

- **Police in British Columbia identified 191 hate-motivated crimes in 2008, up substantially from the 104 reported in the previous year.** This puts the province's hate-crime rate at 4.4 per 100,000 population. Vancouver (+2.8 points to 6.3), Abbotsford-Mission (+2.3 points to 5.9) and Victoria (+2.3 points to 3.2) each saw hate-crime rates climb between 2007 and 2008, while Kelowna's rate inched down (+0.3 points to 3.5). Among Canada's nine largest cities with populations of 500,000 or more, Vancouver ranked highest, along with Hamilton (also at 6.3 in 2008). The lowest rate was recorded in Montréal at 1.0 crime per 100,000 population.

Nationally, 1,036 hate-motivated criminal acts were reported in 2008, an increase of 35% from 2007 levels. Six in 10 reported hate crimes were categorized as non-violent offences, primarily acts of mischief, such as graffiti or vandalism. Minor assaults and uttering threats were the most prevalent types of violent hate crimes committed. About six in 10 persons accused of hate crime in 2008 were youth and young adults aged 12 to 22 years, higher than the proportion accused of crime in general. The age of persons accused of hate crime peaked among 17 and 18 year-olds.

Offences motivated by race (55%), religion (26%) and sexual orientation (16%) continued to account for the vast majority of reported hate crimes. The number of offences for all three categories was up compared to 2007.

Data Source: SC Cat. #. 85-002-XIE

Book Publishing

- **Canada's book publishing industry recorded total revenues of just over $2.1 billion in 2008, down 1.7% from 2007.** Revenues in BC fell 3.3% and, with the exception of Manitoba and New Brunswick, operating revenue was down in every province.

The industry's total profit margin decreased from 11.0% to 9.7% between 2007 and 2008. Collectively, companies in Ontario and Quebec accounted for the majority of the industry's profit (94%). BC was the third largest contributor, generating 4% of revenues, followed by Alberta (2%). *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

For data originating from Statistics Canada, data sourced to 'Statistics Canada' has been retrieved from CANSIM, the agency's electronic database; otherwise the source is identified as 'SC' plus the catalogue number.

Contact: Werner Gründlingh
(250) 387-1124
originally published in
Tourism Sector Monitor Issue 10-05

Tourism-Related Establishments

Tourism sector establishments

Room revenue is often used as a gauge of tourism-related activities, but there are a number of other indicators that can be used to measure the size of the tourism sector. BC Stats has been collecting establishment[1] counts for a number of years, utilizing Statistics Canada's Business Register as source. Each establishment is categorized according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), of which a group of industries have been aggregated as related to tourism[2].

Establishment counts are useful indicators but in themselves do not necessarily measure the economic impact of a particular industry or group of industries. That is, there is no distinction between large and small businesses in a shear count of establishments.

For example, a very large hotel and a bed-and-breakfast (having four rooms, say) are two establishments but in terms of employment and revenues the hotel accounts for a much bigger share of total employment and revenues.

How many establishments are in BC's tourism sector?

In 2009, a total of 17,814 tourism-related establishments operated in British Columbia. This is slightly more than the number in the previous year (17,774). One in ten business establishments in BC (171,288) was related to tourism in 2009 (compared to 169,958 in 2008).

Which industries are included?

Most establishments in tourism-related industries were in food and beverage services (9,609). Transportation made up the next largest industry group with 3,389 establishments, up slightly from 2008 figures (3,356).

Industrial group	Establishments	% of total
Food & beverage	9,609	54
Transportation	3,389	19
Accommodation	1,906	11
Amusement, gambling & recreation	1,714	10
Performing arts & sports	984	6
Heritage institutions	212	1
Total	**17,814**	**100**

Source: Statistics Canada's Business Register
Prepared by: BC Stats

There were also 1,714 amusement, gambling and recreation establishments in BC (1,751 in 2008), along with 984 establishments associated with the performing arts and sports (994 in 2008).

Many large establishments

In 2009, almost one in four establishments (23%) in the tourism sector had 20 or more employees, a considerably greater ratio than the one in ten (11%) average for all industries.

It should be noted that the employment counts do not distinguish between part-time and full-time employment. This may be one reason why there is a greater proportion of larger establishments in the tourism sector, since part-time employment is common in many tourism-related industries. At the same time there are some factors that are indicative of large establishments in the tourism sector. For example, some types of transportation services, large hotel and retail

[1] An establishment is the smallest unit of a company capable of reporting full financial statistics and must have at least one employee. Establishments are often equivalent to "plants" or "locations."

[2] "Tourism related" industries, for the purpose of this analysis, are defined as those industries that are dependent on tourism activity. For an exact definition of NAICS codes included in this analysis, refer to the following methodology paper: Measuring the size of British Columbia's tourism sector, Tourism Indicators Methodology, March 2009, http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/bus_stat/busind/tourism/tour_meth_09.pdf

establishments employ many workers, which may be a factor in the higher ratio of employment.

Of the businesses that have 200 or more employees, most (76%) provided the typical tourist necessities: transportation, accommodation, food and beverage. This number is down from 2008, when about four in five establishments (81%) were in these industries.

Number of employees	Establishments	% of total
1-4	6,177	35
5-9	3,823	21
10-19	3,684	21
20-49	2,744	15
50-199	1,230	7
200+	156	1
Total	**17,814**	**100**

Source: Statistics Canada's Business Registe
Prepared by: BC Stats

Mainland/Southwest counts dominate

Most (87%) of tourism-related establishments are located in the southwest region of BC, with over half (56%) in Mainland/Southwest.

Development region	Establishments	% of total
Mainland/Southwest	10,018	56
Vancouver Island/Coast	3,171	18
Thompson/Okanagan	2,240	13
Kootenay	843	5
Cariboo	703	4
Northeast	322	2
North Coast	293	2
Nechako	207	1
Total	**17,814**	**100**

Source: Statistics Canada's Business Register
Prepared by: BC Stats

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also on the Internet at www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca or choose RSS

BC at a glance . . .

POPULATION (thousands)	Jan1/2010	% change on one year ago
BC	4,494.2	1.6
Canada	33,930.8	1.2
GDP and INCOME (Revised Nov 9)		
(BC - at market prices)	2008	% change on one year ago
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) *($ millions)*	197,931	3.3
GDP *($ 2002 millions)*	164,520	0.0
GDP *($ 2002 per Capita) (reflects revised pop)*	37,529	-1.7
Personal Disposable Income *($ 2002 per Capita)*	25,931	3.2
TRADE ($ millions, seasonally adjusted)		% change on prev. month
Manufacturing Shipments - Apr 2010	2,928	-2.5
Merchandise Exports - Apr 2010	2,328	2.1
Retail Sales - Mar 2010	4,869	0.6
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	% change on	12-month avg
(all items - Apr 2010)	one year ago	% change
BC	1.0	-0.1
Vancouver	1.4	0.1
Victoria	0.4	-0.1
Canada	1.8	0.5
LABOUR FORCE (thousands)		
(seasonally adjusted)	May 2010	% change on prev. month
Labour Force - BC	2,479	-0.2
Employed - BC	2,293	-0.4
Unemployed - BC	187	3.3
		Apr 2010
Unemployment Rate - BC *(percent)*	7.5	7.3
Unemployment Rate - Canada *(percent)*	8.1	8.1
INTEREST RATES (percent)	Jun 16/2010	Jun 17/2009
Prime Business Rate	2.50	2.25
Conventional Mortgages - 1 year	3.70	3.75
- 5 year	5.99	5.85
US-CANADA EXCHANGE RATE	Jun 16/2010	Jun 17/2009
(avg. noon spot rate) Cdn $ per US $	1.0236	1.1371
(closing rate) US $ per Cdn $	0.9752	0.8842
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE RATE		
(industrial aggregate - dollars)	May 2010	% change on one year ago
BC	828.89	4.9
Canada	815.69	2.5

SOURCES:

Population, Gross Domestic Product, Trade, Prices, Labour Force, Wage Rate } Statistics Canada

Interest Rates, Exchange Rates: Bank of Canada Weekly Financial Statistics

For latest Weekly Financial Statistics see www.bankofcanada.ca

BC Labour Market Outlook 2009–2019

A new report featuring labour supply and demand forecasts, by occupation and region, is now available. Based on the BC Labour Market Scenario Model (undertaken by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development in partnership with BC Stats and the Ministry of Finance), this report provides projections of future job openings and potential labour market imbalances.

http://workbc.ca/labour_market_statistics/labour_market_projections.htm

Labour Market Information Gateway

A new gateway with links to labour market information is now available. The labour market information gateway features access to a variety of data sources, articles, and reports containing labour market information for British Columbia in one convenient location.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/lss/lmi_gate.asp

Quarterly Indicators for BC Economy

A new table with data for key quarterly indicators for the BC economy is now available. The table offers a quick look at the quarterly change in selected economic and demographic variables that provide an indication of the strength or weakness of the BC economy.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/bus_stat/busind/qinds.asp

BC's Solid Waste Flow, 2006

This report examines the source and composition of solid waste in British Columbia. Three key sectors are measured: industrial, commercial and institutional (IC&I); construction, renovation and demolition (CR&D); and residential.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/env/SolidWaste06.pdf

Released this week by BC Stats

- Exports, April 2010

Next week

- Consumer Price Index, May 2010

BC Stats, Box 9410 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, B.C. V8W 9V1
Tel: 250-387-0327 Fax: 250-387-0380 Web: www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca E-mail: BC.Stats@gov.bc.ca